

# Oxbridge Lane Primary School

## RSE Policy



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# Oxbridge Lane Primary School RSE Policy

## **Introduction**

RSE is compulsory in Primary Schools. We follow the government guidance and the **Department for Education's 2025 statutory guidance on Relationships, Sex and Health Education**, which will come into force in September 2026.

This policy covers Oxbridge Lane Primary School's whole school approach to Relationships and Sex Education (RSE). We believe that RSE is vital for the personal, social and emotional development of our pupils. It equips children and young people with the information, skills and values they need to have safe, respectful, and enjoyable relationships, and empowers them to take responsibility for their sexual health. At Oxbridge Lane, we believe that all children and young people have a right to holistic, inclusive, and needs-led RSE. Through providing high-quality RSE, we are upholding the ethos and values of our school and its commitment to equality, celebration of difference, and safeguarding.

Oxbridge Lane Primary School considers RSE as an integral part of the Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Citizenship curriculum, and it is linked to the National Curriculum Science programme. We aim to offer pupils a carefully planned programme on human development, relationships, sexuality, and family life within a safe, supportive, and comfortable atmosphere. The programme is set within a moral framework and matched to pupils' level of maturity. This policy reflects the requirements of the **DfE's 2025 statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education guidance**.

As an early adopter school, we are committed to promoting a safe, healthy, and inclusive lifestyle. RSE is not regarded as a subject in its own right, but it is a planned element of PSHE and Citizenship education. Effective RSE is taught in an atmosphere of trust, responsibility, and respect, where sensitive issues can be discussed without embarrassment or threat.

The information below complies with our statutory obligations to deliver RSE under sections 34 & 35 of the **Children and Social Work Act 2017** and reflects our duties under the **Equality Act 2010**.

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## **Writing of the Policy**

This policy was produced with SLT in consultation with teaching staff and parents. The policy will be available to parents on the website, and a paper copy can be provided on request. **Parental consultation is conducted regularly**, particularly regarding sex education beyond the statutory science curriculum, in line with the 2025 guidance.

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## **Definition of Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)**

RSE is lifelong learning about physical, moral, and emotional development. It includes understanding the importance of stable and loving relationships, family life, respect, love, and care. It is also about the teaching of sex, sexuality, and health. RSE involves acquiring information, developing skills, and forming positive beliefs, values, and attitudes.

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## **Aims**

The aim of RSE is to provide balanced factual information about physical and emotional changes, alongside the broader emotional, ethical, religious, and moral dimensions of sexual health. These aims are taught through a cross-curricular approach. Our RSE programme aims to prepare pupils for adult life in which they can:

- Develop positive values and a moral framework that guides decisions, judgements, and behaviour.
- Have confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others, develop respect for individual conscience, and judge the kind of relationships they want.
- Understand the consequences of their actions and behave responsibly within personal relationships.
- Avoid being pressured into uncomfortable or dangerous situations.
- Communicate effectively using appropriate language for sex and relationship issues.
- Develop awareness of their sexuality, challenge sexism, homophobia, prejudice, and promote equality and diversity.
- Have sufficient information and skills to protect themselves in a variety of situations, including online safety.
- Be aware of sources of help and acquire the skills and confidence to access advice and support if necessary.
- Recognise the importance of mental and emotional wellbeing in maintaining healthy relationships.

## Curriculum

RSE is delivered through the **National Curriculum Science, PSHE, and Citizenship** programmes, supplemented by specific sessions on relationships and sex education.

- **EYFS:** Children learn about positive relationships, making friends, and developing their own feelings.
- **Key Stage 1 to Key Stage 2:** RSE includes understanding growth and change, respect for one another, and preparation for the physical and emotional changes of puberty.
- **Key Stage 2 (Years 5 & 6):** Sex education may be included beyond the science curriculum. Parents are consulted in advance, and pupils have the right to withdraw from these sessions.

We recognise and respect pupils' different abilities, levels of maturity, and personal circumstances, including sexual orientation, gender identity, faith, or culture. All young people have equal access to our RSE programme.

**Digital and online safety:** RSE lessons include guidance on online relationships, sharing images, and staying safe in digital spaces.

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## Science Curriculum

**EYFS:** Learn about male and female, young animals, forming friendships, and relationships.

**Key Stage 1:** Humans and animals move, feed, grow, use senses, reproduce; recognise similarities and differences, and treat others with sensitivity.

**Key Stage 2:** Life processes of humans and animals including nutrition, growth, reproduction; stages of the human life cycle.

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## Teaching of RSE

The PSHE and Citizenship Lead ensures RSE is well planned and sequenced, suitably resourced, and taught consistently across the school. Staff work with the DSL and other colleagues to ensure the curriculum meets individual pupil needs.

Teaching approaches include discussions, drama/role play, games, problem-solving, group work, circle time, and involvement of visitors such as the school nurse. **Ground rules** are established to ensure a safe environment for discussion.

Questions are answered honestly, at an age-appropriate level, and within ground rules. If a question is not suitable for the class, it is addressed individually.

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## Inclusion

The policy takes account of pupils' needs based on culture, disability, sexual orientation, religion, and belief. Pupils with Special Needs receive adapted RSE, with specialist advice where necessary.

**Sexual identity and orientation:** Issues are addressed sensitively, honestly, and inclusively.

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## Withdrawal

Parents have the right to withdraw children from **non-statutory sex education** beyond the National Curriculum Science.

Requests are accommodated, and alternative arrangements are made. Parents are encouraged to discuss concerns with the SLT.

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## Confidentiality and Safeguarding

Ground rules protect sensitive discussions while recognising that **absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed**. Teachers follow school safeguarding procedures, referring concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead.

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## Assessment

Assessment is formative through discussion, observation, and analysis of children's work. The RSE Lead monitors teaching quality and ensures the programme meets statutory requirements.

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## Monitoring and Evaluation

The RSE programme is monitored as part of the school's overall curriculum evaluation. The policy and curriculum are reviewed **annually** by the RSE Lead and Governing Body.

## Our school is committed to relationships and sex education, which:

**1.**

Is an identifiable part of our personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education curriculum, which has planned, timetabled lessons across all the Key Stages

**2.**

Is taught by staff regularly trained in RSE and PSHE (with expert visitors invited in to enhance and supplement the programme where appropriate)

**3.**

Works in partnership with parents and carers, informing them about what their children will be learning and about how they can contribute at home

**4.**

Delivers lessons where pupils feel safe and encourages participation by using a variety of teaching approaches with opportunities to develop critical thinking and relationship skills

**5.**

Is based on reliable sources of information, including about the law and legal rights, and distinguishes between fact and opinion

**6.**

Promotes safe, equal, caring and enjoyable relationships and discusses real-life issues appropriate to the age and stage of pupils, including friendships, families, consent, relationship abuse, sexual exploitation and safe relationships online

**7.**

Gives a positive view of human sexuality, with honest and medically accurate information, so that pupils can learn about their bodies and sexual and reproductive health in ways that are appropriate to their age and maturity

**8.**

Gives pupils opportunities to reflect on values and influences (such as from peers, media, faith and culture) that may shape their attitudes to relationships and sex, and nurtures respect for different views

**9.**

Includes learning about how to get help and treatment from sources such as the school nurse and other health and advice services, including reliable information online

**10.**

Fosters gender equality and LGBT+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans) equality and challenges all forms of discrimination in RSE lessons and in every-day school life

**11.**

Meets the needs of all pupils with their diverse experiences - including those with special educational needs and disabilities

**12.**

Seeks pupils' views about RSE so that teaching can be made relevant to their real lives and assessed and adapted as their needs change

**Notes:**  
These 12 points explain what is needed for good quality RSE. This is based on research evidence and is supported by a wide range of organisations. The purpose of RSE is to help children and young people to be safe, healthy and happy as they grow up and in their future lives. RSE must always be appropriate to pupils' age and stage of development and is an essential part of safeguarding. The law requires that, from September 2020, relationships and sex education (RSE) is taught in all secondary schools in England, and that relationships education is taught in all primary schools in England. In addition, National Curriculum Science<sup>1</sup> (which is taught in maintained schools) includes some elements of sex education.

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